

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1066

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

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DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS WHITE HOUSE

DEPT MAY WISH PASS OTHER INFO ADDRESSEES

E. O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT - QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

ON MEETING WITH AMB BROWN AND VIET NAM

1. AMB BROWN AND I HAVE HAD A VERY GOOD, VERY HELPFUL TALK. AS YOU KNOW, AMB BROWN WAS SENT TO LEBANON FOUR

WEEKS AGO TAKING LEAVE FROM HIS POSITION AS PRESIDENT OF THE MIDDLE EAST INSTITUTE AND LEFT WITHIN SOMETHING LIKE TWENTY-FOUR HOUR NOTICE. AT THAT TIME, THE SITUATION IN LEBANON WAS CHAOTIC, AND THE DANGER OF OUTSIDE INTERVENTION WAS VERY GREAT. IN THE INTERVAL, PARTLY AS A RESULT OF HIS EXTRAORDIN-

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ARY EFFORTS, WE CAN NOW TALK ABOUT THE BEGINNING OF

A RESTORATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT IN LEBANON. WE DISCUSSED SUCH THINGS AS THE CREATION OF A SECURITY FORCE AND THE DANGER OF THE SITUATION IN LEBANON ESCALATING INTO A MIDDLE EAST CRISIS HAS BEEN REDUCED. WE'VE REPEATEDLY POINTED OUT THAT IT REMAINS A DELICATE PROCESS AND THAT IT COULD EASILY BE UPSET BY IRRESPONSIBLE ACTIONS OF INDIVIDUALS, ACTIONS OF OUTSIDE POWERS, AND THE US VIEW IS THAT ALL OF THE FACTIONS, ALL OF THE INTERESTED OUTSIDE POWERS SHOULD CONTINUE TO EXHIBIT THE CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE THAT HAS BROUGHT MATTERS TO THIS POINT. AMB BROWN IS GOING TO RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES TO REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT. HE WILL THEN RETURN TO LEBANON FOR A FEW DAYS AND THEN HE WILL HAVE COMPLETED HIS MISSION WITH GREAT DISTINCTION - AND AS A GREAT SERVICE TO PEACE IN THE

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1067

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

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AREA - A GREAT SERVICE TO THE FOREIGN POLICY IN THE UNITED STATES.

2. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

A) Q. WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THE CREATION OF A SECURITY FORCE.

A. WELL, AS YOU KNOW, THE SECURITY FORCE IN THE COUNTRY - THE MILITARY FORCES, AND THE POLICE - DISINTEGRATED UNDER THE IMPACT OF THE CIVIL WAR, AND WHEN A NEW PRESIDENT IS ELECTED AND THE GOVERNMENT IS RECONSTITUTED, ONE OF THE OBVIOUS PROBLEMS IT WILL FACE IS HOW TO CREATE A FORCE THAT IS RESPONSIVE TO THE GOVERNMENT AND THAT CAN INTERPOSE ITSELF BETWEEN THE VARIOUS FACTIONS. AND THERE ARE SOME IDEAS ON THIS SUBJECT THAT ARE NOW BEING EXPLORED

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AND WHICH AMBASSADOR BROWN HAS ALSO BEEN HELPFUL.

B) Q. WILL THERE BE LEBANESE FORCES OR OUTSIDE FORCES?

A. WE ARE TALKING ABOUT LEBANESE FORCES DRAWN PERHAPS UPON SOME OF THE FACTIONS OR SEPARATELY RECRUITED. WE DON'T WANT TO GO INTO ANY OF THE DETAILS, BUT WE ARE SPECIFICALLY TALKING ABOUT LEBANESE SECURITY FORCES TO DEAL WITH LEBANESE PROBLEMS.

C) Q. WILL THERE BE INDIGENOUS PALESTINIANS IN THAT SECURITY FORCE?

A. THE COMPOSITION OF THE SECURITY FORCES IS ONE OF THE SUBJECTS THAT IS UNDER NEGOTIATION RIGHT NOW, AND I DON'T THINK IT IS FOR US TO SPECULATE AS TO THE ELEMENT BUT OBVIOUSLY A SECURITY FORCE TO BE EFFECTIVE MUST BE ACCEPTABLE TO ALL OF THE PARTIES THERE, AND ALL OF THE PARTIES THAT FEEL THREATENED.

D) Q. WHAT KIND OF TIME FRAME ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

A. WE. OF COURSE, DO NOT CONTROL THE TIME FRAME. AGAIN I MUST STRESS THE SITUATION IS TENUOUS AND DELICATE, AND IT HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO THIS POINT THROUGH THE CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE OF ALL OF THE PARTIES. ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THAT CONTINUES, WE WOULD THINK THAT THE ELECTION OF A NEW PRESIDENT COULD BE COMPLETED WITHIN A TWO WEEK PERIOD, AND THAT THE BEGINNING OF A RETURN TO MORE NORMAL PROCESSES SHOULD START IMMEDIATELY AFTER THAT.

E) Q. HAS THE DANGER OF MASSIVE OUTSIDE INTERVENTION

BEEN REDUCED?

A. IT IS MY IMPRESSION FROM AMBASSADOR BROWN'S REPORT THAT THE DANGER OF OUTSIDE INTERVENTION HAS BEEN REDUCED. BUT, OF COURSE, IF THE SITUATION IN LEBANON SHOULD BLOW UP AGAIN, THE DANGER COULD RETURN. BUT AS OF THIS MOMENT WOULDN'T YOU SAY (DIRECTED TO AMBASSADOR BROWN INAUDIBLE RESPONSE).

F) Q. ARE THE SYRIAN TROOPS STILL IN THERE?

A. I DON'T THINK THERE HAS BEEN ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN TROOP DEPLOYMENTS SINCE I ANSWERED
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QUESTIONS AT A PRESS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY.

G) Q. WOULD THE U.S. PLAY ANY ROLE - PERHAPS AS A GUARANTOR IN CASE SECURITY FORCES WERE TO BE ESTABLISHED?

A. OUR BASIC POSITION HAS BEEN TO AVOID INTERVENTION BY OUTSIDE POWERS OR TO GIVE OUTSIDE POWERS THE RIGHT OF INTERVENTION, AND THEREFORE WE WOULD BELIEVE THAT THE BEST SOLUTION WOULD BE ONE IN WHICH THE LEBANESE FACTIONS AGREE AMONG THEMSELVES AS TO THE CREATION OF THE SECURITY FORCE.

H) Q. WHAT ARE THE PROSPECTS FOR SYRIANS REMOVING THEIR TROOPS FROM LEBANON?

A. WELL, THIS IS A QUESTION THAT WILL HAVE TO BE NEGOTIATED BETWEEN THE LEBANESE AND THE SYRIANS, BUT IT IS OUR IMPRESSION THAT THEY ARE THERE AS PART OF THE IMMEDIATE SITUATION AND NOT AS A PERMANENT FEATURE OF THE LEBANESE SCENE.

I) Q. WHAT IS THE US ROLE IN THE CREATION OF THE SECURITY FORCE. IS AMBASSADOR BROWN TRYING TO GET FACTIONS TO AGREE ON THE COMPOSITIONS OR...

A. WELL, I THINK IT IS FAIR TO SAY THAT AMBASSADOR BROWN HAS BEEN ONE OF THE VERY FEW PEOPLE WHO HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH ALL OF THE FACTIONS, AND I SAY VERY FEW, PROBABLY THE ONLY PERSON IN LEBANON - AND THEREFORE HE HAS BEEN IN A POSITION TO CARRY THE IDEAS OF THE VARIOUS

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